

# TEACHING OF GERMAN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVESTIGATED BY SENATE

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Bullets distributed among the membership of the National German-American alliance in 1891, urging that the teaching of German in the public schools be so extended that the "foreign" language would be considered the "foreign" language.

The sub-committee is considering a bill by Senator King of Utah, which seeks to dissolve the alliance.

The bulletins referred to were printed and bound under the title of German-American Annals, and were published before the alliance was

chartered. Some of them, as translated by the witness, advanced the idea that Germans coming to the United States should in "thought, nature and acts" remain German, though taking out citizenship papers to get the vote.

Mr. Chlinger testified that the alliance conducted a campaign to raise money to aid in the defense of an editor of a German language publication in Philadelphia who had been indicted for treasonable utterances; that the bulletins failed to condemn the sinking of the Lusitania or the invasion of Belgium, and that a meeting of one of the subordinate organizations in St. Louis after the Lusitania sinking adopted a resolution reciting that the United States government should thank Count Von Bernstorff for his having warned passengers not to sail on that boat. In only one issue since America went to war, he said, has there been

any commendatory reference in the bulletins to the part played by the United States.

The witness referred to a book, "German Spies in England," written by William Lequeux, who he said quoted the German emperor as having said in 1908 that C. J. Hexamer of Philadelphia, formerly president of the alliance, had been of great service to the German cause. The words attributed to the kaiser were: "If man ever was worthy of decoration at my hands, it was Herr Dr. Hexamer, the president of the league, who may justly be termed to be, by my grace, the acting ruler of all Germans in the United States."

In his testimony on Saturday Mr. Chlinger said that Dr. Hexamer received the order of the fourth order of the Red Eagle in 1904 from the kaiser for his services to German "kultur" in the United States.

## THE PRESS AS RELATED TO THE WAR

Vall Pittman, in his address before the Tonopah High school this morning on "The Censorship of the Press and the Duties of the Press," said, in part, that it was his firm and unqualified opinion that the press should have every freedom, and that no restrictions whatever should be placed on it, except at unusual crucial times in the affairs of the nation, and then only in a limited degree. He showed where the muzzling of the press was a relic of centuries ago, when kings had absolute power and in order to retain this power kept their subjects in ignorance. That this same principle of restriction in England is what called for Milton's "Areopagitica," a speech for the freedom of the press, in 1644, in which he said, "Give me liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely, according to conscience, above all other liberties."

Mr. Pittman praised the way the press has been treated in the United States and showed how, from the very beginning this great American republic had recognized the freedom of the press as a cardinal principle in democratic government, and had provided for this principle in its constitutions, as did the first constitutions of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and North Carolina, enacted in 1776. He gave the following four reasons why the press should not be censored:

First.—If the administration can muzzle the press, it can more or less indefinitely hide any inefficiency from which it may suffer.

Second.—A policy of secrecy breeds hosts of rumors and suspicions and misleads the public whose war it is, and who have a right to know how their war is being carried on.

Third.—It is continuously stated that the French and British censorships have been failures and that we should not imitate them.

Fourth.—The first amendment of the federal constitution provides, "That congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press."

The speaker opposed the administration's censorship bill, but paid high tribute to the president and the administration for the mastery way in which they had handled the great economic and political questions that are confronting the nation today.

He also expatiated on the other three reasons given above and praised the drafters of the constitution as men of great ability and foresight, and said that the constitution is the backbone of our nation, and the guiding star.

He described the duties of the press as follows: "The duties of the press are not only numerous, but profound in their nature, and it might be said that they are sacred, because the press is a mold of opinion and disseminator of knowledge, which are closely associated with character and the present and future advancement of our nation is dependent upon the honesty, ability, integrity and enlightenment of its citizens, and the press is the

greatest factor in developing these traits. Without the great publications which circulate throughout these United States we would have only a smattering of knowledge concerning the happenings in our own country, to say nothing about the appalling ignorance that would prevail regarding foreign occurrences. We would become sectionalized and narrow in the extreme, and unfit to be recognized as a part of the great history-making organization.

"It is of the highest importance that the newspapers of our country adhere strictly to the truth, and be actuated by principle, and not personal aggrandizement or malice. It is the duty of the press to give its unreserved allegiance and loyalty to its government, and to render every service possible when the occasion warrants, like the present time, when we are fighting for our very national existence, and in the balance hang liberty, justice and humanity, which means democracy. If we fail (and I am sure we will not) it means the domination of the

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## BOY SCOUTS RENDER VALUABLE SERVICE

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Feb. 26.—In many ways the Boy Scouts have rendered valuable national service since the war started. Now, in response to an appeal from the food controller, they are going to help the farmers kill rabbits.

"From the point of view both of food production and crop protection," says the food controller, "the killing of rabbits at the present time is a national and public service. Every rabbit killed represents roughly two and a half pounds of food for the nation, and means also one enemy less for the crops and the farmer."

## CLOTH FROM PAPER MADE IN GERMANY

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Practically all the textile mills in the Chemnitz (Saxony) district, the center of that industry in Germany, were making cloth from paper during 1917. The available supply of cotton and wool for textile purposes having been entirely exhausted. A few establishments were spinning and weaving fabrics of nettle fibre by the process invented by an Austrian scientist during the war.

Profits from the manufacture of the substitute cloth were, according to a review of the industry published in a recent number of the Cologne Gazette, by no means small and many plants made good dividends.

Scarcely had the mills been converted to working upon the paper yarns, however, when the manufacturers were unpleasantly surprised by the news of an alarming shortage in the new raw material, viz. wood pulp, almost the entire supply of which is required as a base for explosives and other munition purposes, and the prospects for the textile plants for the coming year were described in the review as very poor.

Nettle fibre as a possible substitute for paper yarn is available only in limited quantities, so that

## BIG CROPS IN THE EMERALD ISLE

(By Associated Press.)

DUBLIN, Feb. 26.—Food production in Ireland this year is expected to exceed all records, according to the announcement of Sir Thomas Russell of the Irish department of agriculture, who has made arrangements for the tilling in 1918 of 500,000 acres of land in addition to that under cultivation last year, when 750,000 more than in 1916 were planted. The increase this year will be compulsory.

The government has guaranteed the farmers against loss. Sir Thomas reported that there had been no serious difficulty in forcing the increase in planting last year and that only 1,004 farmers had refused to carry out the instructions of the government. Of these 800 had yielded, under pressure, and he stated

that the farms of the remaining 264 would be operated by the department of agriculture.

There has been a considerable shortage of butter and its export has now been prohibited by the government. English buyers came over here and went into the country buying at a higher price than the maximum and there was not enough left for the Irish market.

Ireland has begun to develop a margarine trade and factories have been set up in various places, notably Cork and Waterford.

The general impression made on English visitors to the Dublin hotels is that Ireland is better off for food than England and that the restrictions have had much less effect.

### FORECAST FOR THE WEEK.

Southern Rocky Mountain Plateau Regions: Generally fair weather, with lower temperatures in the northern portion of the district Monday and Tuesday.

Pacific States: Generally fair weather until Tuesday; a brief period of rains about the middle of the week north of Central California; end of the week uncertain; no important temperature changes.

A. J. HENRY, Forecaster.

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### LUTHERAN SERVICES.

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